

# KICKSTART NEWS

# KICKSTART ACADEMY

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we reach the end of the first half term, I would like to thank the staff and students for a smooth transition to the new premises.

Joining the Learning Community Trust has created a wide range of opportunities for our students, including our capacity to network with other schools, liaising with employers for work experience opportunities and alternative provision placements.

All our students have returned with a more positive attitude towards their learning. Our young people look fantastic in their uniform, and it creates a strong sense of belonging.

I have been thrilled by the uptake for the school football team and with those students who have been involved in the Operation Christmas Child appeal.

I would like to welcome to our team Mrs Webster who is our school SENDCO. She is working closely with our students to ensure that they have the necessary adaptations to support them in their learning.

Please can you continue to support your son/daughter with their school experiences and encourage them to do their very best in school.

Kind Regards,

E L Rennie Gibbons.

Mrs Rennie-Gibbons

Headteacher.



## Safeguarding.

We want to remind you that there are always services to support you over the holidays, including Family Connect, on 01952 385385. They can provide support and signpost you to adult and child services.

In addition, Pegsupport.co.uk is a non-council run service that can provide support to parents and guardians struggling with child abuse.

Many Thanks Peter Ford (DSL).

# ART

This is Kickstart's collaborative entry for the Learning Community Trust's all school competition. Students and staff worked together on pieces of a jigsaw which was put together to make a whole puzzle. The idea was to celebrate diversity and independence while recognising that we are all part of a bigger picture/community.



A huge well done to Jonathan for this outstanding piece of artwork!

This community project was completed by students and parents/carers. Each were given a small canvas and asked to complete half of a wing. The quote says 'Believe in yourself and all that you are. Know that there is something inside you that is greater than any obstacle'. Thanks to all who participated, we think it looks very eye catching!



## Food Technology.

This half term our year 10 and 11 students have been busy cooking. Our year 10 students have been busy practising their skills and making dough to make pizzas and Oreo cheesecake.

I'm proud to say that each student has been practising their skills they've learnt in the kitchen and can follow a recipe to produce a high standard meal. I'm sure you'll agree these pizzas look mouthwatering.

Year 11 students have been learning about the importance of temperature control and what danger zones are when making and preparing food. This half term they've practiced and demonstrated their ability to cook unaided and decided to put their skills to the test and make home-made beef burgers, brownies, and mac 'N' cheese, I do hope you're enjoying sampling their food.

We also kicked off our football season in which we take part in each year. This is a regional league which sees us have a fixture each month around the Midlands area. I'm proud to say we won our fixture 10-3.



### Match report:

Kickstart academy kicked off their season with an 3-10 away win against neighbouring Lamledge school. It was a nervous start for both schools, but once LLG opened the scoring there was no turning back. Further goals from DM and LC gave Kickstart a commanding 5-1 lead at half time. The second half saw LLG score yet more goals, ending the game with five. Captain LC driving home a free kick for Kickstart, from near the halfway line to complete a hat-trick of his own. Kickstart took the all the points in this game and head to the top of the league table. The next fixture takes place Friday 20th October against Brades lodge school 10.30am kick off.



# Sports Leadership.

This half term we have been looking at the different stages of a warmup and cooldown and the benefits. The students have created some good session plans, because of this they will be able to lead aspects of their sessions with each other in the coming weeks, as part of their evidence towards their sports leadership award.



# Mental Health.

Shropshire Beam are pleased to provide Virtual workshops for Parents & Professionals from September 2023. All virtual workshops will take around an hour.

There are four Workshops which will be rolled out at 4pm to enable more people to attend, please see the following details of content:-

- ♣ Managing Anxiety – aims and objectives are to pass over psycho - education within the topic followed by practical suggestions of methods and techniques to help support the youth experience issues with anxiety.
- ♣ Understanding and Responding to Self-Harm - – aims and objectives are to pass over psycho - education within the topic followed by practical suggestions of methods and techniques to help support the youth experiencing issues with self-harm.
- ♣ Wellbeing Planning – a workshop which explains and provides a tool for children and young people to support their general Emotional Health and Wellbeing, it recognises triggers and promotes self-awareness, his can also be used as a relapse tool to support resilience.
- ♣ Sleep Support - aims to pass over psycho - education within the topic followed by practical suggestions and advice on methods and techniques to help support the children and young people having difficulties with getting to sleep and staying asleep. This workshop will be rolled out twice over the four weeks, due to popular demand.

# Mental Health Support Links 2023.

 <b><u>Date &amp; Time.</u></b>	<b><u>Title.</u></b>	<b><u>Microsoft Teams Link.</u></b> 
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November at 12-1.30pm.	Supporting and understanding self-harm.	Microsoft Teams meeting. Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting.</a> Meeting ID: 348 464 765 432 Passcode: irUtXm.
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November at 11am for one hour.	Wellbeing Planning.	Microsoft Teams meeting. Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. Click here to join the meeting. Meeting ID: 321 754 166 245 Passcode: viqFRr.
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November at 11am for one hour.	Managing Anxiety.	Microsoft Teams meeting. Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting.</a> Meeting ID: 336 980 538 520 Passcode: GQX4fA.
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November at 11am for one hour.	Sleep Support.	Microsoft Teams meeting. Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting.</a> Meeting ID: 390 578 843 044 Passcode: QQApY6.
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November at 11am for an hour and half.	Supporting and understanding self-harm.	Microsoft Teams meeting. Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting.</a> Meeting ID: 399 802 527 205 Passcode: GaMeMH.
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November at 11am for one hour.	Wellbeing Planning.	Microsoft Teams meeting. Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting.</a> Meeting ID: 327 675 940 86 Passcode: PDswpg.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December for one hour.	Managing Anxiety.	Microsoft Teams meeting. Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting.</a> Meeting ID: 364 878 148 222 Passcode: 4qQjB3.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December for one hour.	Sleep Support.	Microsoft Teams meeting. Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting.</a> Meeting ID: 384 668 141 353 Passcode: omE3qY.

If you have any concerns or would like to chat about anything you can reach me at:  
 Susanne.parry@lct.education.

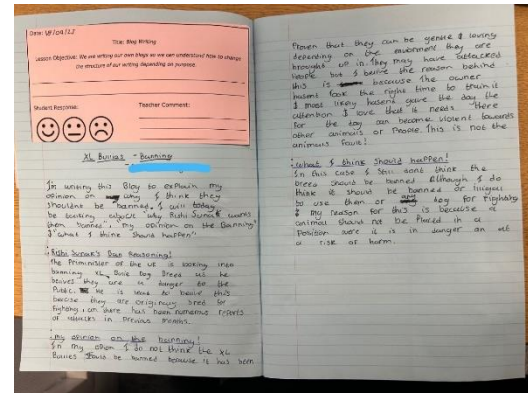
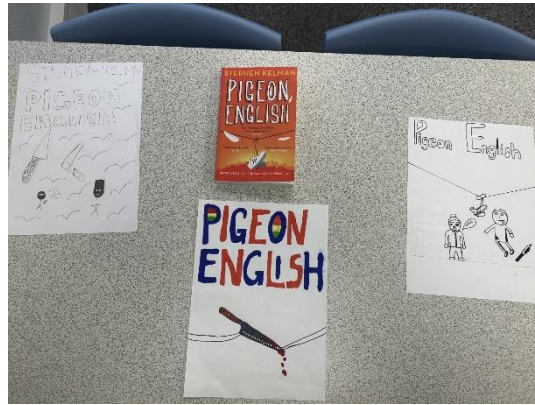
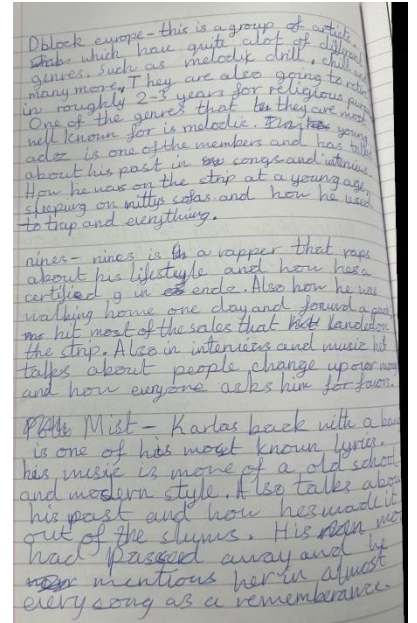
Mental Health Lead at Kickstart Academy.

# English Language.

It has been an exciting term in English so far! This year our Year 10's have been looking at non-fiction writing and our Year 11's have been exploring creative reading. We've studied some difficult but important issues that have helped us develop our English skills as well as our understanding of the world around us.

Some extremely impressive and thought-provoking work has been produced. Year 11 have tackled grown-up discussions centred around our book 'Pigeon English' that has required an impressive level of maturity and insight. Meanwhile, Year 10 have been hard at work studying Black History Month and producing their own examples of Newspaper articles and blogs.

As Halloween approaches our students are embracing the festivities by becoming reading wizards! Three students have completed the first stage of the reading challenge and earned themselves a free cinema ticket each for their efforts. A huge congratulations to them as they have already sped through the ten stages required in just six weeks.



# Maths.

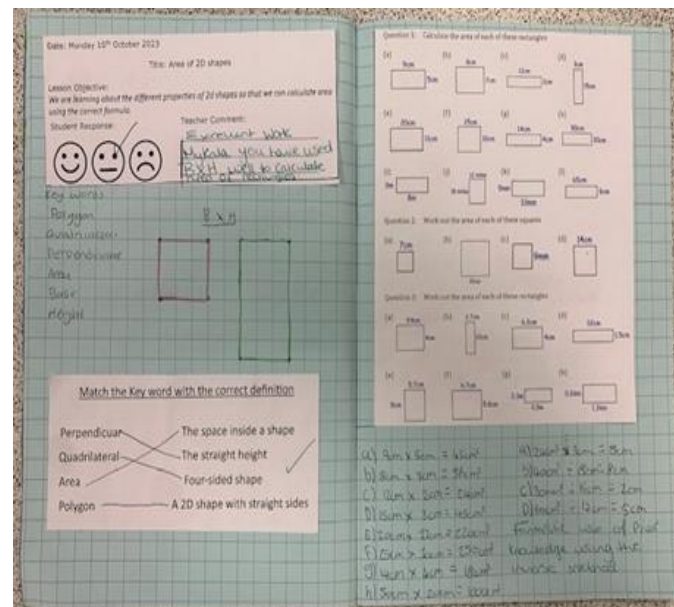
Well done to all students attending their maths lessons this term. There have been some fantastic pieces of work created.

Students have been working on their functional maths skills and researching careers which use mathematical skills. They have been learning skills like telling the time, multiplying, and dividing and will soon be attempting their Entry 2, Entry 3, Level 1 or Level 2 functional skills exams.

Other skills that have been used this term include:

- ◇ Finding fractions of amounts.
- ◇ Calculating the mean, mode, median and range.
- ◇ Inverse operations.
- ◇ Worded problem solving.

Here is a wonderful example of finding the area of different quadrilaterals using base X height by Mykala in year 10.



# Exam Information.

All students in Year 11 are aware that next term gets busier in terms of exams and expectations. Some will be sitting their Functional Skills exams, but all will be working towards their GCSEs in other subjects!

Last year 15 students achieved several academic qualifications which have enabled them to go on to college and/or work apprenticeships. We have high hopes for this year 11 cohort too!

Please be aware of the following guidance and information for candidates regarding examinations.

[https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/IFC-NE\\_Assessments\\_2023\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/IFC-NE_Assessments_2023_FINAL.pdf)

[https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/IFC-Written\\_Examinations\\_Sep2023\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/IFC-Written_Examinations_Sep2023_FINAL.pdf)

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/JCQ-Social-Media-Infographic-v4.pdf>

# Intervention.

Both Year 10 and 11 have completed a range of diagnostic tests over the last half term. We have assessed current reading, spelling, and maths skills to develop a clear picture of pupil needs. We have also encouraged pupils to reflect upon their own strengths and difficulties.

Over the last half term, Year 10 have been completing two intervention sessions each week which focus on emotional literacy. We have covered topics such as emotional regulation, dealing with anger and self-esteem.



# Science.



Year 10 and 11 have had an amazing start over the last term, they have conducted a range of experiments that they have enjoyed such as burning crisps calories and dissecting a pig's heart.

The students have enjoyed having the axolotl and the African slugs in the classroom, they take turns feeding them.

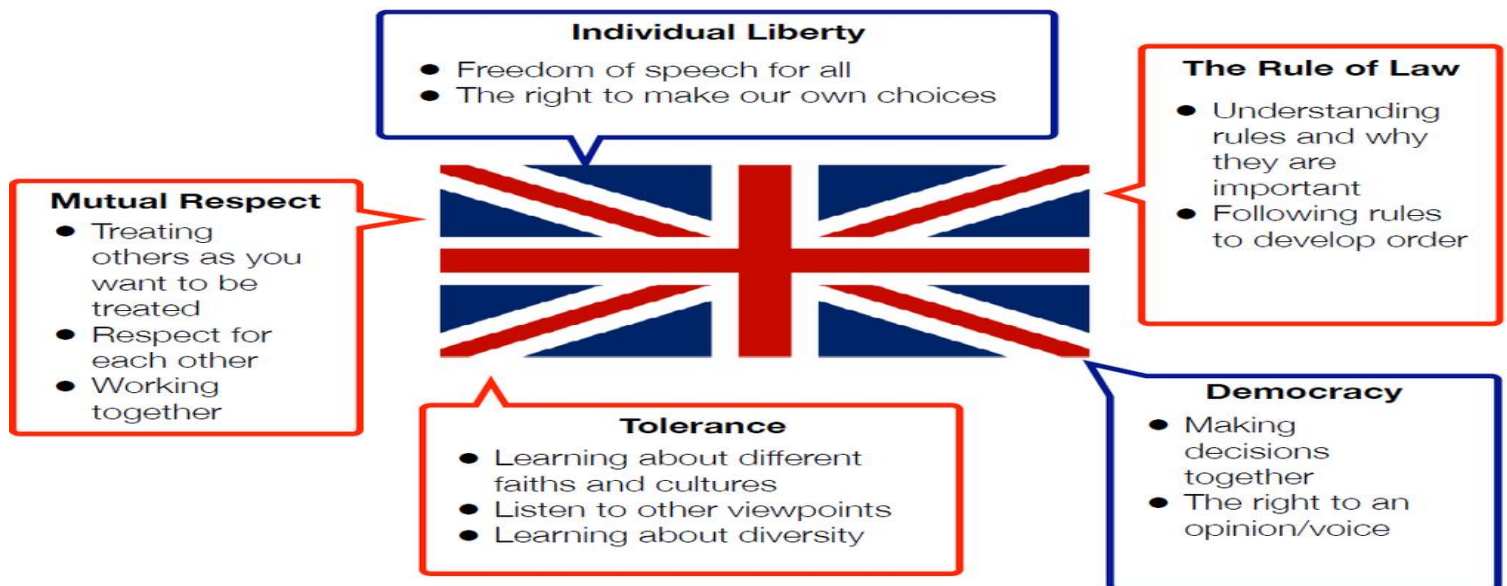
We have carried out investigating of how our digestive system function and the importance of why our organs must stay healthy.

A great way to end the term, well done to all year students for their continuous hard work.

# Personal Development.

In our personal development programme students have been looking at their own personal progression by creating a short term and long-term plan by identifying their own strengths and areas for development. Students shared their own positive personal qualities and were able to recognise positive qualities in their classmates.

## British Values



Currently in class we are celebrating Black History. Black History Month is a month-long celebration of the achievements of Black people throughout history right up to today. It is an opportunity for everyone to learn about the history and the Black community while also making strides to eradicate the inequality that still exists in society today. Students are enjoying creating a biography on Usain Bolt's life, his achievements in the sporting world and how he has overcome adversity through remaining focused on his goal.

# Halloween Night.

## Halloween Fire Safety Tips!

When choosing a costume, stay away from long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so he or she can see out.

Provide children with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.

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### Did you know?



Decorations are the first thing to ignite in roughly **800** reported home fires each year. More than one-third of these fires were started by a candle.

Use a battery-operated candle or glow-stick in jack-o lanterns. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are always watched when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o lanterns, use long, fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of the way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways, and yards.

Remember to keep exits clear of decorations, so nothing blocks escape routes. Make sure all smoke alarms in the home are working.

Tell children to stay away from open flames including jack-o-lanterns with candles in them. Be sure they know how to stop, drop, and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice, stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out.)



# Bonfire Night.

## Fireworks Safety.

Each year, fire departments across the country respond to emergencies resulting from the use of fireworks: including injuries and wildland or structure fires. These incidences occur most often throughout the months surrounding the autumn season in November.

## Did you know?

During this time, around

**200**

people are seen in the

Emergency Department *each*

*day* with fireworks – related

injuries.

The three body parts

most commonly injured

by fireworks:

- \* **Hands**
- \* **Eyes**
- \* **Head**

## Stay Safe.

- **Follow all warnings and instructions.**
- Never allow children to play with fireworks of any kind.
- **Wear protective clothing, including eyewear.**
- Light devices on smooth flat surfaces away from residential areas, dry leaves, and flammable materials.
- **Always keep a hose or bucket of water nearby in case of malfunction.**
- Never try to re-light fireworks that have not fully functioned.

